

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 35 and 39. Please amend claims 37 and 37. Below are the now-pending claims.

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~~31. (Previously Amended) A data system comprising:
a data storage card having a data storage medium;
a housing comprising a panel;
an opening formed in the panel sized for passage of the
card therethrough along a first path substantially parallel to
the axis of the card;
a card support for receiving said card and which is movable
between a load/unload position and a read/write position wherein
the load/unload position is along said first path and said
read/write position is located on a second path substantially
perpendicular to said first path;
a card handler mechanism comprising at least one pair of
driving members for engaging and moving the card between the
opening and the card support;
a data head; and
means for moving at least one of the data head and the card
support carrying the card relative to one another, whereby the
data head can read data from and/or write data to the data
storage medium when the card support is at the read/write
position.~~

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~~32. (Previously Amended) The data system according to claim
31 wherein the moving means causes the data head to move along
substantially parallel tracks along the storage medium.~~

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1 ³ 33. (Previously Amended) The data system according to claim 31 wherein the substantially parallel tracks are constant-radius curved tracks.

4 34. (Previously Amended) A data unit, for use with a substrate having first and second edges and a data surface region therebetween, comprising:

a base;

a substrate support, configured to support a substrate, mounted to the base;

C1 a data head drive mounted to the base, the data head drive comprising a data head reciprocally moveable along a second path;

a step driver controllably moving at least one of the data head drive and the substrate support relative to one another along a first path and said second path;

first and second data head support surfaces positioned at opposite ends of a second path and adjacent to said substrate support, said first and second paths being transverse to one another; and

said data head comprising a data head surface which contacts said first and second data head support surfaces as said data head moves along the opposite ends of said second path.

35. (Cancelled)

5 ³⁶ 36. (Currently Amended) ~~The method according to claim 35~~ A method for reading and/or writing data from/to a plurality of parallel data tracks on a substrate comprising:

moving said substrate on a substrate support to a location accessible by a data head;

positioning a data head at a first position on the substrate;

moving the data head along a first data track on the substrate to permit reading and/or writing of data from/to the first data track;

repositioning the data head to a second position on the substrate spaced-apart from the first data track; and

moving the data head along a second data track on the substrate to permit reading and/or writing of data from/to the second data track,

wherein the moving steps are carried out in a manner that the first and second data tracks are parallel, substantially curved, constant-radius data tracks.

37. (Currently Amended) ~~The method according to claim 35~~ A method for reading and/or writing data from/to a plurality of parallel data tracks on a substrate comprising:

moving said substrate on a substrate support to a location accessible by a data head;

positioning a data head at a first position on the substrate;

moving the data head along a first data track on the substrate to permit reading and/or writing of data from/to the first data track;

repositioning the data head to a second position on the substrate spaced-apart from the first data track, wherein the repositioning step is carried out by moving the data head in a direction substantially perpendicular to the first data tracks;

moving the data head along a second data track on the substrate to permit reading and/or writing of data from/to the second data track, wherein the first and second data tracks are parallel data tracks.

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38. (Presently Amended) The method according to claim ~~36~~ 37 ⁶
wherein the moving steps are carried out in a manner that the
first and second data tracks are substantially straight data
tracks. ^{c1}

[39. (Cancelled)]

8 40. (Previously Added) The method according to claim ~~36~~ 37 ⁵
further comprising continuing to move the data head along
extensions of the first and second data tracks, said extensions
passing adjacent to data head support surfaces.
